

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3-5, 12, 13, 22, and 76 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 34, 43, and 56 as noted below.

Please add new claims 78-86 as noted below.

1. (currently amended) A method for treating a B-cell malignancy, the method comprising: administering to a subject having ~~or at risk of developing~~ a B-cell malignancy (a) an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate CD20 expression and (b) an anti-CD20 antibody, wherein the administering the CpG oligonucleotide and the anti-CD20 antibody results in treating the B-cell malignancy.
- 2.-6. (canceled)
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the B-cell malignancy is B-cell lymphoma associated with low levels of CD20 expression.
8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the B-cell lymphoma is B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL).
9. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the B-cell lymphoma is a marginal zone lymphoma.
10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the anti-CD20 antibody is C2B8.
11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the anti-CD20 antibody is Rituximab.

12.-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 13~~ claim 1, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.

15. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 13~~ claim 1, wherein the modified backbone is an amino acid backbone.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory ~~nucleic acid~~ CpG oligonucleotide is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory ~~nucleic acid~~ CpG oligonucleotide is isolated.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory ~~nucleic acid~~ CpG oligonucleotide is a synthetic nucleic acid.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory ~~nucleic acid~~ CpG oligonucleotide and the anti-CD20 antibody are administered together.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory ~~nucleic acid~~ CpG oligonucleotide and the anti-CD20 antibody are administered separately.

22.-23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) A method for treating B-cell malignancy, the method comprising:

administering to a subject having ~~or at risk of developing~~ a B-cell malignancy, wherein said B-cell malignancy is a marginal zone lymphoma or B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL), an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to induce expression of a surface antigen on a cancer cell surface, wherein said surface antigen is chosen from a CD22 antigen and a CD19 antigen, and

administering to the subject an antibody chosen from an anti-CD22 antibody and an anti-CD19 antibody, wherein the administering the CpG oligonucleotide and the antibody results in treating the B-cell malignancy.

25.-33. (canceled)

34. (currently amended) A method for treating ~~lymphoma~~ B-cell malignancy, the method comprising:

isolating a B cell from a subject having ~~lymphoma~~ B-cell malignancy, wherein said B-cell malignancy is a marginal zone lymphoma or B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL),

identifying a surface antigen chosen from CD19, CD20, and CD22 which is not expressed or which is expressed on the surface of the B cell in an amount lower than that of a normal B cell, and

administering to the subject (a) an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen on the B cell surface, and (b) an antibody specific for the surface antigen, wherein the administering the CpG oligonucleotide and the antibody results in treating the B-cell malignancy.

35.-42. (canceled)

43. (currently amended) A method for treating a ~~lymphoma~~ B-cell malignancy resistant to antibody therapy, the method comprising:

administering to a subject having a lymphoma B-cell malignancy resistant to therapy with an antibody specific for a surface antigen chosen from CD19, CD20, and CD22, wherein said B-cell malignancy is a marginal zone lymphoma or B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL), an antibody specific for the surface antigen and an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, wherein the nucleic acid CpG oligonucleotide is administered in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen on the lymphoma B-cell malignancy, wherein the administering the antibody and the CpG oligonucleotide results in treating the B-cell malignancy.

44.-55. (canceled)

56. (currently amended) A method for treating cancer in a human, the method comprising: administering to a human having a cancer with cells expressing a cell surface antigen an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long, said nucleic acid comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, and an a human or humanized antibody of IgG1 isotype, which antibody binds to the cell surface antigen, wherein the nucleic acid and the antibody are administered in an effective amount for killing the cells expressing the cell surface antigen.

57.-75. (canceled)

76.-77. (canceled)

78. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the surface antigen is CD19.

79. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein surface antigen is CD20.

80. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein surface antigen is CD22.

81. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the B-cell malignancy is B-CLL.

82. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the B-cell malignancy is marginal zone lymphoma.

83. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD19.

84. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD20.

85. (new) The method of claim 84, wherein the antibody is Rituximab.

86. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD20.